

Town of Amherst, MA



# Town Manager Report to the Town Council

January 4<sup>th</sup> 2021

# COVID-19

## COVID-19: Agenda

- **Status Report with Health Director Emma Dragon**
- Town Operations Update
- Recent Updates

# Status Report:

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health

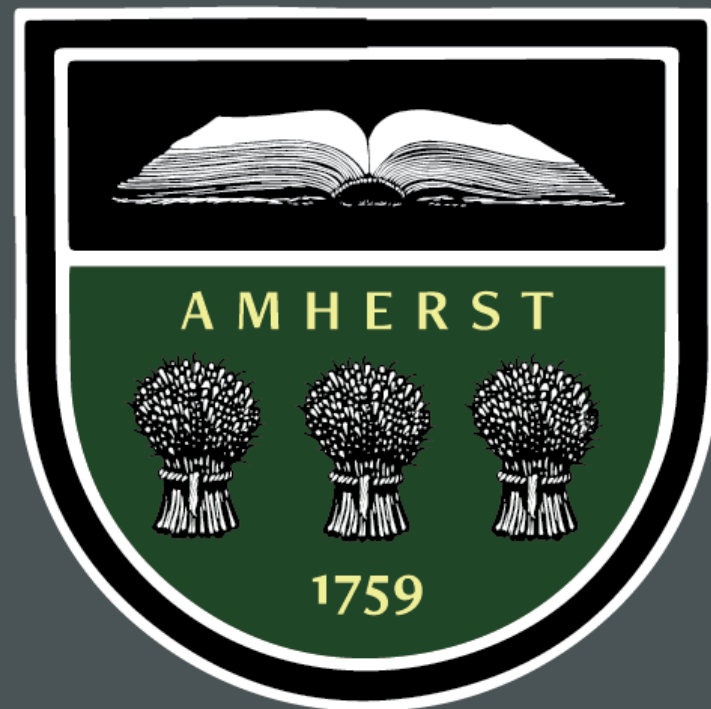


### Massachusetts **current as of 1/2/2021**

- **367,987 Total Cases (3,940 in Hampshire County, 849 cumulative in Amherst)**
- **92 active cases in Amherst**
- **12,236 Deaths**
- **11,046,093 tests to date by MA State Public Health, hospital, and commercial laboratories**

Source: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/covid-19-dashboard-january-2-2020/download>

## THE NUMBERS



- October 19<sup>th</sup>
- 21 active cases
- November 16<sup>th</sup>
- 87 active cases
- December 14<sup>th</sup>
- 124 active cases
- January 2<sup>nd</sup>
- 92 active cases

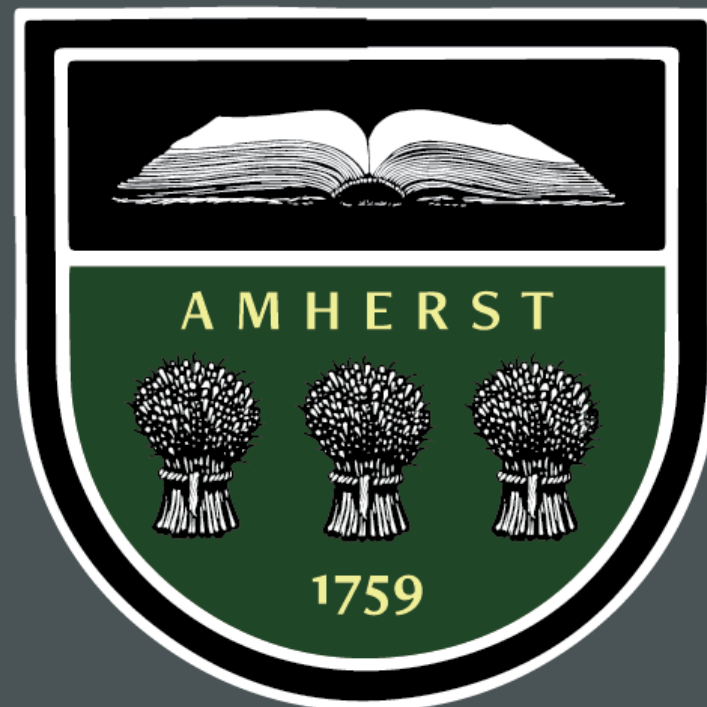
# Status Report: Institutional Partners



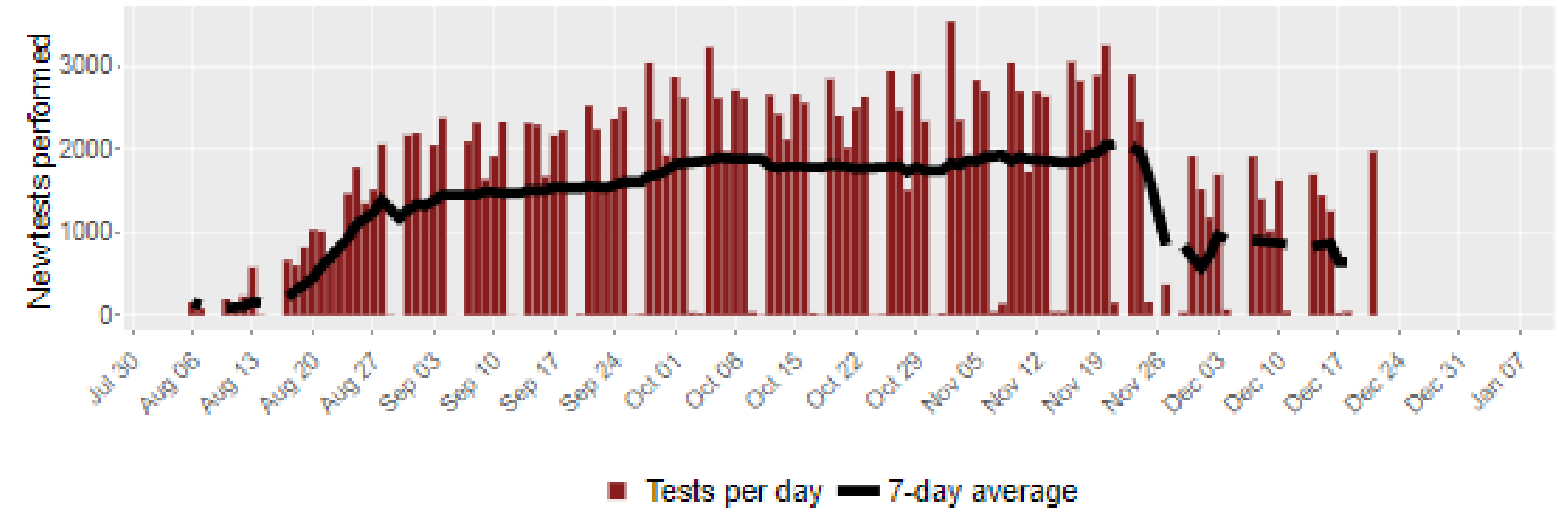
- University of Massachusetts at Amherst:
  - <https://www.umass.edu/coronavirus/dashboard>
  - **As of January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021:**
    - Total tests completed – 185,542
    - Positive – 544 (cumulative)
- Amherst College:
  - <https://www.amherst.edu/news/covid-19/dashboard>
  - **As of January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021:**
    - Total tests completed – 59,222
    - Positive – 19 (cumulative)
- Hampshire College:
  - <https://www.hampshire.edu/news/2020/08/21/covid-19-student-testing-program>
  - **As of January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021:**
    - Total tests completed – 5,571
    - Positive – 8 (cumulative)

# INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERS

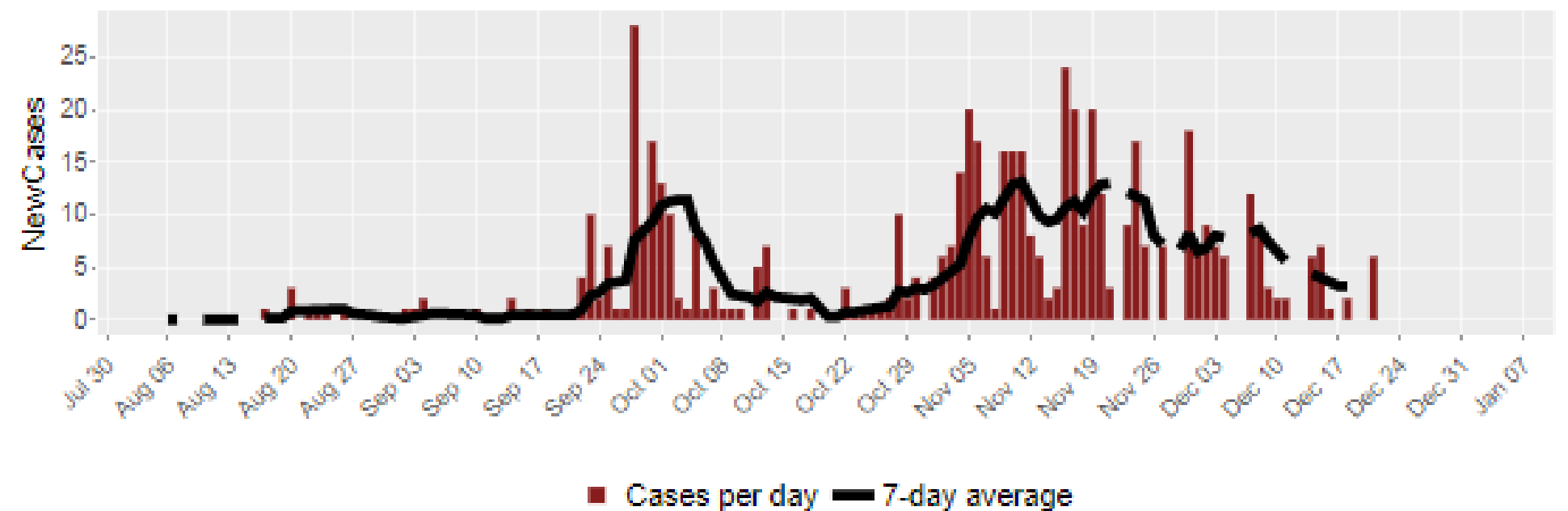
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UMASS  
[12-23-2020]



Daily Total Tests Performed



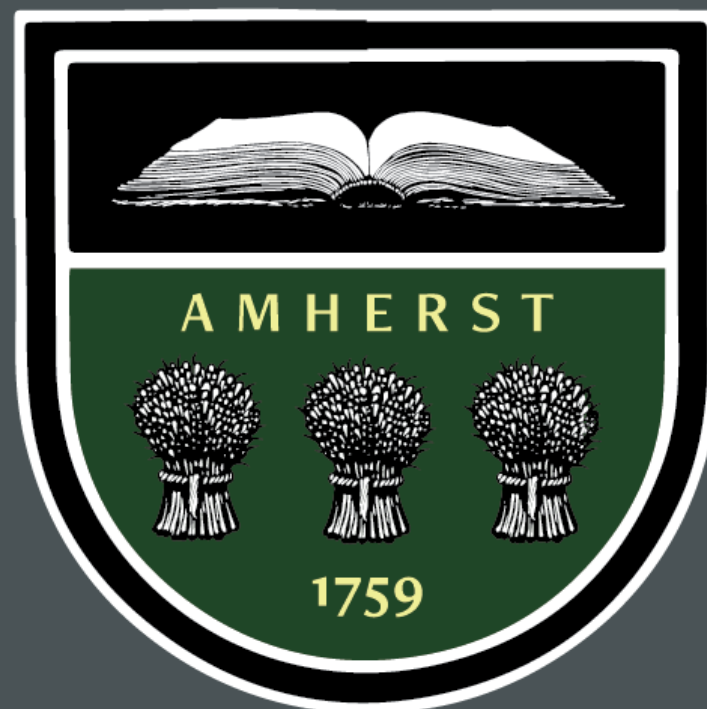
Daily Total Cases



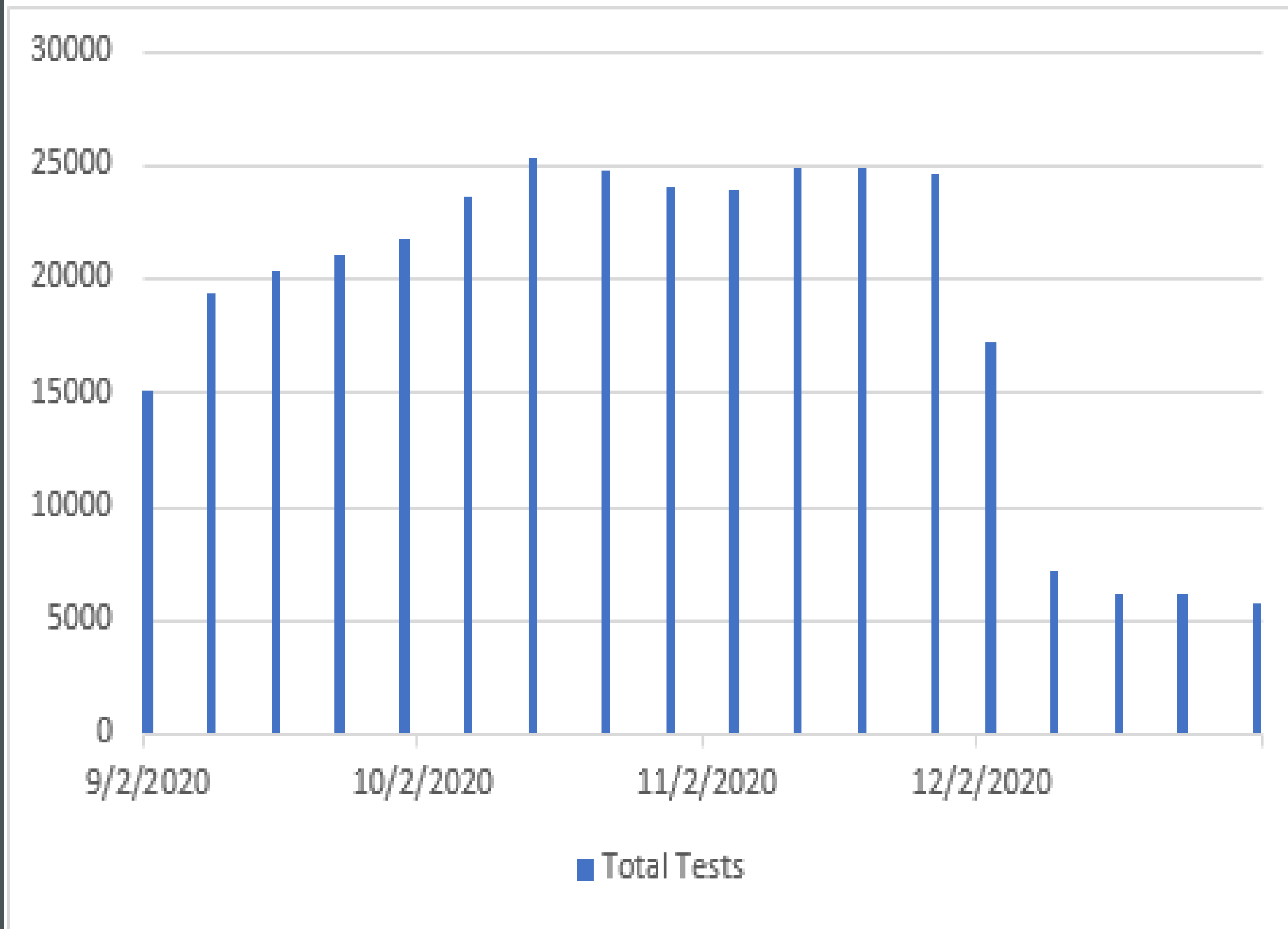
Case Breakdowns

Campus	Students	Staff	Faculty	Total
Living off campus	473	38	6	517
Living on campus	27	0	0	27
Total	500	38	6	544

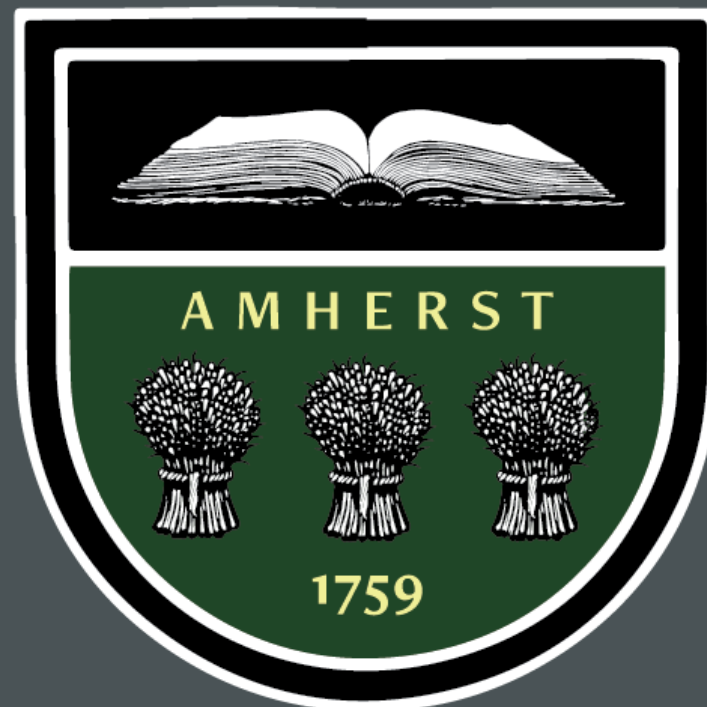
# TOWN OF AMHERST TOTAL TESTS



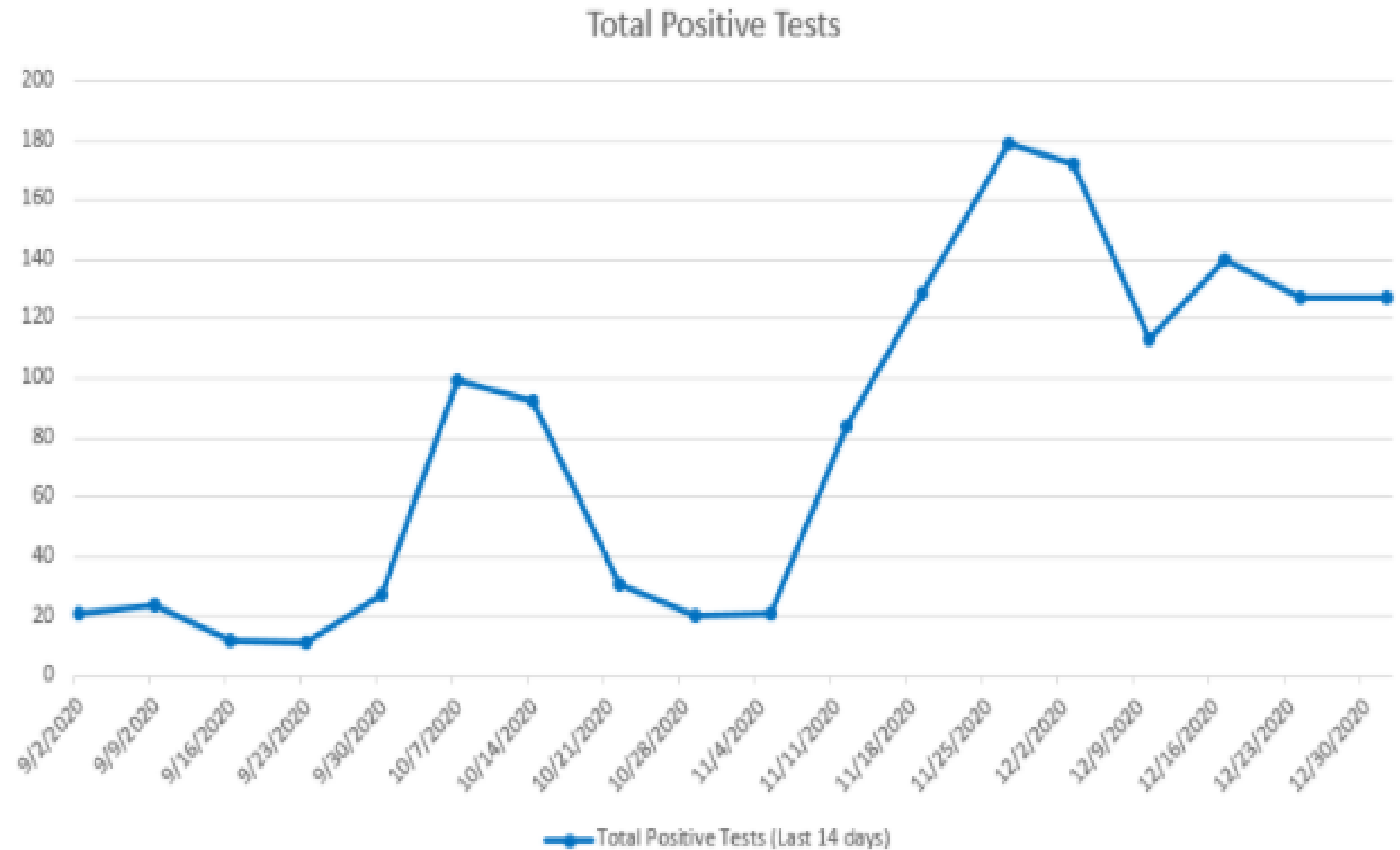
**09/02/20 – 12/24/2020**



# TOWN OF AMHERST POSITIVE TESTS

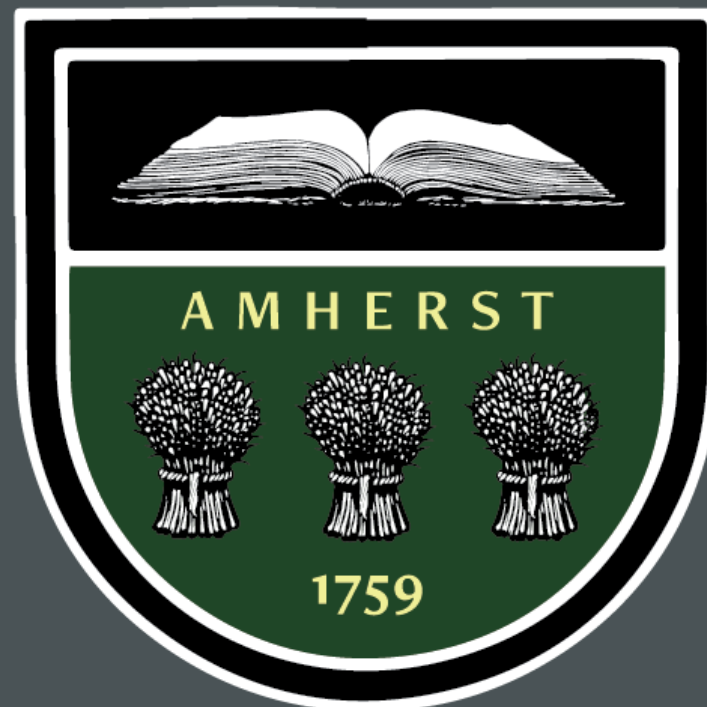


**09/02/20 – 01/01/2021**

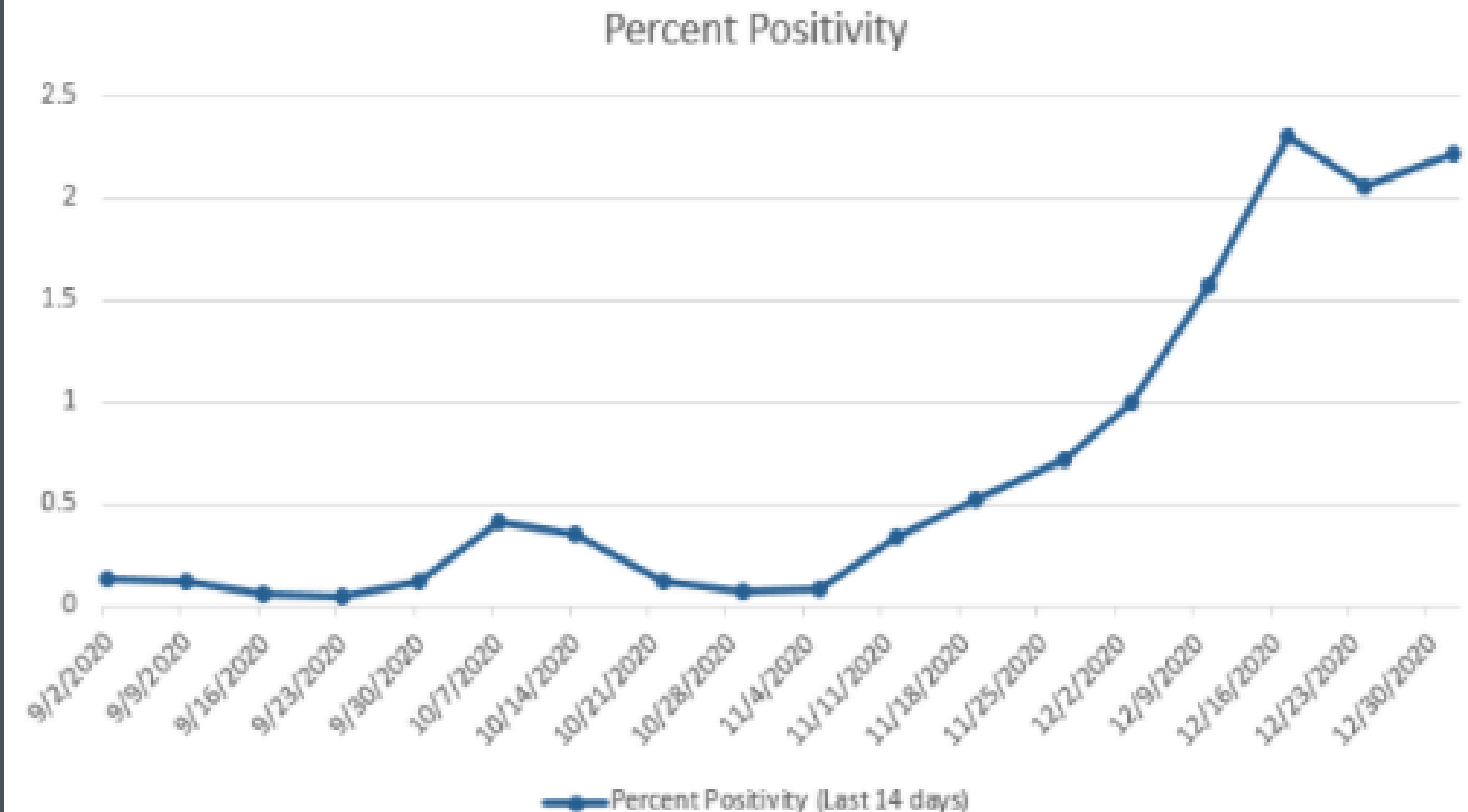




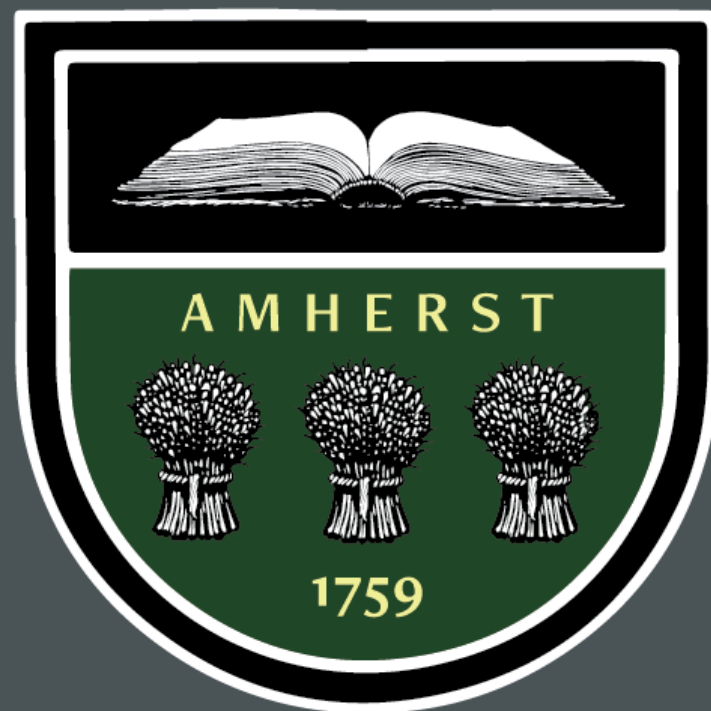
# TOWN OF AMHERST PERCENT POSITIVE



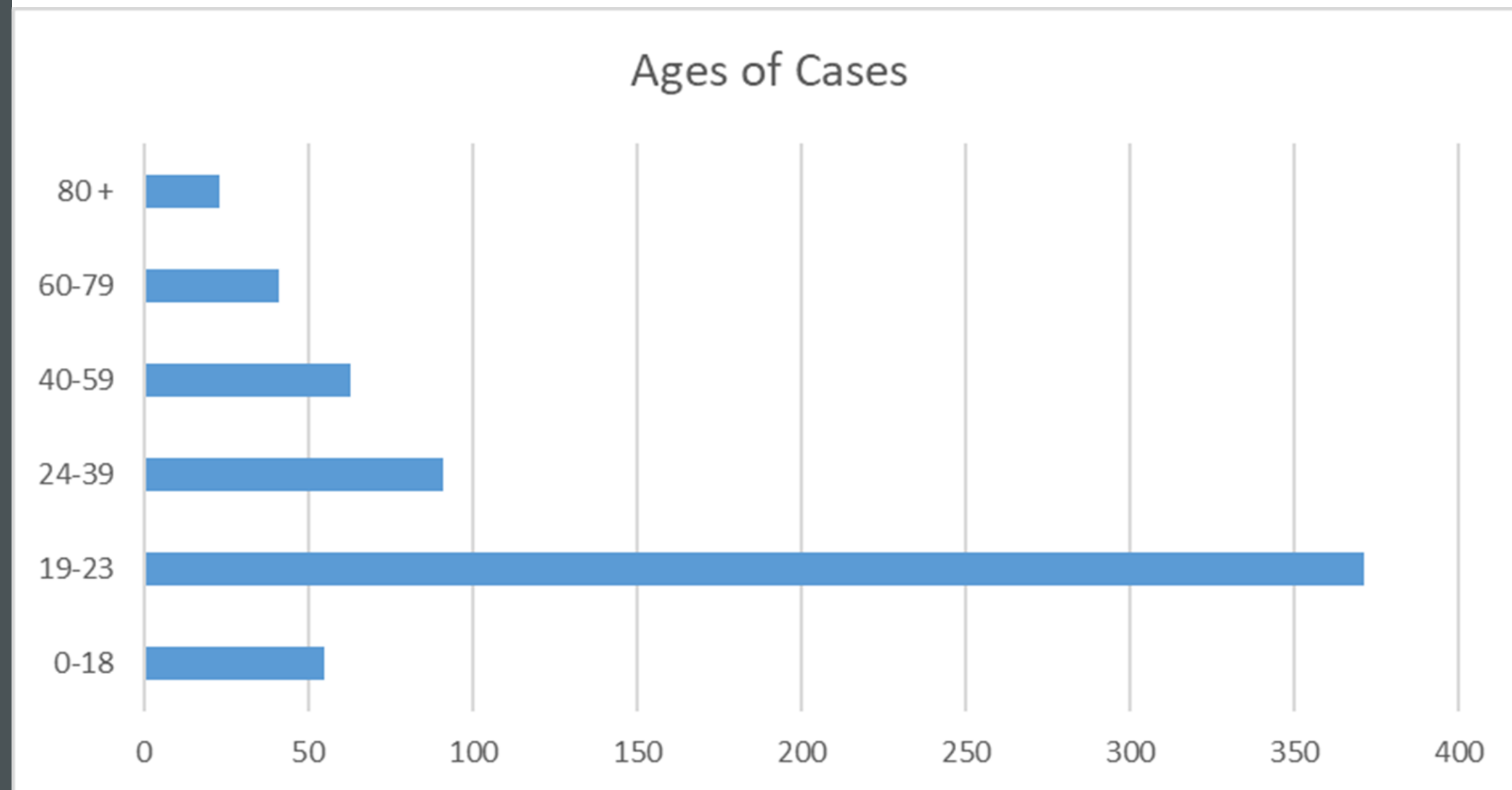
09/02/20 – 01/01/2021



# TOWN OF AMHERST AGE COHORTS



**10/04/20 – 01/03/2021**



# Public Health Indicators

## Town Metrics



Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard - Friday, November 06, 2020

**Average Daily Incidence Rate per 100,000 Color Calculations**

Group	Population		
	Under 10K	10K-50K	Over 50K
Grey	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 10 total cases	Less than or equal to 15 total cases
Green	Less than or equal to 15 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >10 total cases	<10 avg cases/100k AND >15 total cases
Yellow	Less than or equal to 25 total cases	≥10 avg cases/100k OR ≥5% pos rate	≥10 avg cases/100k OR ≥ 4% pos rate
Red	More than 25 total cases	≥10 avg cases/100k AND ≥5% pos rate	≥10 avg cases/100k AND ≥4% pos rate

# Public Health Indicators

## Amherst (December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020)



Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard – Thursday, December 31, 2020

Count and Rate of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases and Tests Performed in MA by City/Town, January 1, 2020 – December 29, 2020

City/Town	Total Case Count	Case Count (Last 14 Days)	Average Daily Incidence Rate per 100,000 (Last 14 days) <sup>1</sup>	Relative Change in Case Counts <sup>2</sup>	Total Tests	Total Tests (Last 14 days)	Total Positive Tests (Last 14 days)	Percent Positivity (Last 14 days)	Change in Percent Positivity <sup>3</sup>
Abington	861	180	70.5	Lower	15951	1750	194	11.09%	Higher
Acton	509	77	23.2	Lower	23336	2490	96	3.86%	Lower
Acushnet	574	93	63.6	Lower	10986	939	113	12.03%	Higher
Adams	126	24	20.8	Higher	7072	710	25	3.52%	Higher
Agawam	1386	211	52.9	Higher	34218	3730	251	6.73%	Higher
Alford	<5	0	0	No Change	151	9	0	0%	No Change
Amesbury	614	118	50.8	Lower	16178	1730	135	7.80%	Lower
Amherst	832	111	19.7	Lower	180776	5732	127	2.22%	Higher
Andover	1419	250	49.5	Lower	53340	5056	294	5.81%	No Change
Aquinnah	<5	0	0	No Change	410	20	0	0%	No Change
Arlington	985	157	24.5	Lower	61022	6352	181	2.85%	Higher
Ashburnham	166	38	43.2	Higher	6198	528	41	7.77%	Higher
Ashby	84	17	34.8	Higher	2328	199	17	8.54%	Higher
Ashfield	17	<5	8.4	Lower	1330	119	2	1.68%	Lower
Ashland	822	102	37.0	Lower	21911	2362	116	4.91%	Lower
Athol	341	89	53.1	Lower	12656	1444	102	7.06%	Higher
Attleboro	2355	337	51.7	Lower	42211	4705	391	8.31%	No Change

# Public Health Indicators

## (Updated December 31, 2020)



### Massachusetts Department of Public Health COVID-19 Dashboard - Active COVID Clusters by Exposure Setting Type

Thursday, December 31, 2020

Exposure	New Clusters (Identified 11/29 – 12/26)			Ongoing Clusters (Cluster Identified Prior to 11/29 But Not Meeting Criteria for Closing)			Total		
Setting	Clusters	Confirmed Cases	Contacts	Clusters	Confirmed Cases	Contacts	Clusters	Confirmed Cases	Contacts
24/7 Congregate Settings	44	162	51	62	128	38	106	290	89
Child Care	155	478	671	157	100	355	312	578	1,026
Colleges & Universities	9	56	20	30	6	2	39	62	22
Corrections	3	89	3	17	1,080	54	20	1,169	57
Hospitals	18	173	15	30	223	74	48	396	89
Household	19,931	51,044		13,783	5,886		33,714	56,930	
Industrial Settings	20	119	61	59	170	69	79	289	130
K-12 Schools	30	121	243	59	64	56	89	185	299
Long Term Care Facilities	122	1,186		206	2,401		328	3,587	
Offices	7	19	2	9	2	0	16	21	2
Organized Athletics/Camps	14	63	171	19	12	62	33	75	233
Other	0	0	0	6	1	0	6	1	0
Other Food Establishments	6	30	29	11	25	1	17	55	30
Other Healthcare	21	127	57	27	50	14	48	177	71
Other Workplaces	20	87	30	27	38	41	47	125	71
Places of Worship	5	55	4	12	4	1	17	59	5
Recreation/Cultural	5	23	17	4	0	0	9	23	17
Restaurants & Food Courts	25	223	40	50	78	34	75	301	74
Retail & Services	15	41	24	23	23	11	38	64	35
Senior Living	52	396	33	79	440	195	131	836	228
Shelters	3	37	0	4	3	0	7	40	0
Social Gatherings	49	307	42	38	30	26	87	337	68
Travel & Lodging	1	2	0	2	10	0	3	12	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,555</b>	<b>54,838</b>	<b>1,513</b>	<b>14,714</b>	<b>10,774</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>35,269</b>	<b>65,612</b>	<b>2,546</b>



# Town Based - Covid Testing

## Only for Sick or Exposed Individuals



12/18	74 tests	7 positive
12/22	87 tests	7 positive
12/29	25 tests	Inconclusive
01/02	17 tests	2 positive
(repeat of 12/29 tests)		

**Paid by the Town with  
Federal CARES funds.**





# MASSACHUSETTS VACCINE DISTRIBUTION TIMELINE



## PHASE ONE

In order of priority

- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters)
- Home-based healthcare workers
- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care



## PHASE TWO

In order of priority

- Individuals with 2+ comorbidities (high risk for COVID-19 complications)
- Early education, K-12, transit, grocery, utility, food and agriculture, sanitation, public works and public health workers
- Adults 65+
- Individuals with one comorbidity



## PHASE THREE

Vaccine available to general public

December - February

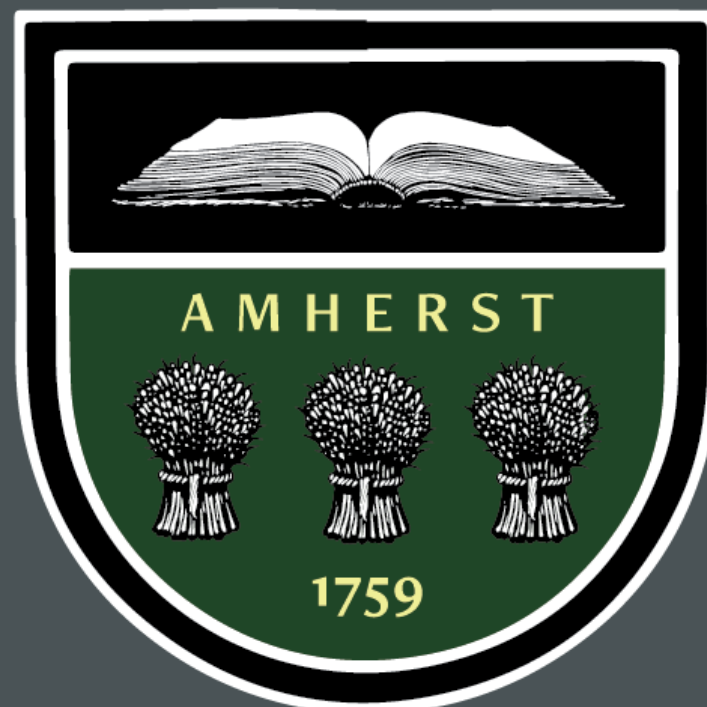
Estimated timeframes

February - April

April - June



# MASSACHUSETTS VACCINE DISTRIBUTION TIMELINE



## PHASE ONE

In order of priority

- Clinical and non-clinical healthcare workers doing direct and COVID-facing care
- Long term care facilities, rest homes and assisted living facilities
- Police, Fire and Emergency Medical Services
- Congregate care settings (including corrections and shelters)
- Home-based healthcare workers
- Healthcare workers doing non-COVID-facing care

December - February

We are just beginning this part of phase one



More information available about the Massachusetts Covid Vaccine Program:

[mass.gov/CovidVaccine](https://mass.gov/CovidVaccine)



## COVID-19: Agenda

- Status Report with Health Director Emma Dragon
- **Town Operations Update**
- Recent Updates

# Continuity of Operations



Emergency Medical Services

Fire Services

Police Services

Dispatch



Water Treatment & Distribution

Wastewater Treatment &  
Collection

Transfer Station

Public Works and Roads



Finance – payroll, payables,  
purchasing, budget

Health Department

Information Technology

Human Resources

## ❑ **Live Call-in Events:**

- Weekly call-in show continues every Thursday at 12 noon

## ❑ **Website Update:**

- Consolidated information on [www.AmherstCovid19.org](http://www.AmherstCovid19.org)

## ❑ **Outreach:**

- Weekly Community Breakfast with Health Director and Health Nurse
- Ambassadors on reduced staffing and schedule through January
- COVID-19 Hotline still receiving calls/emails



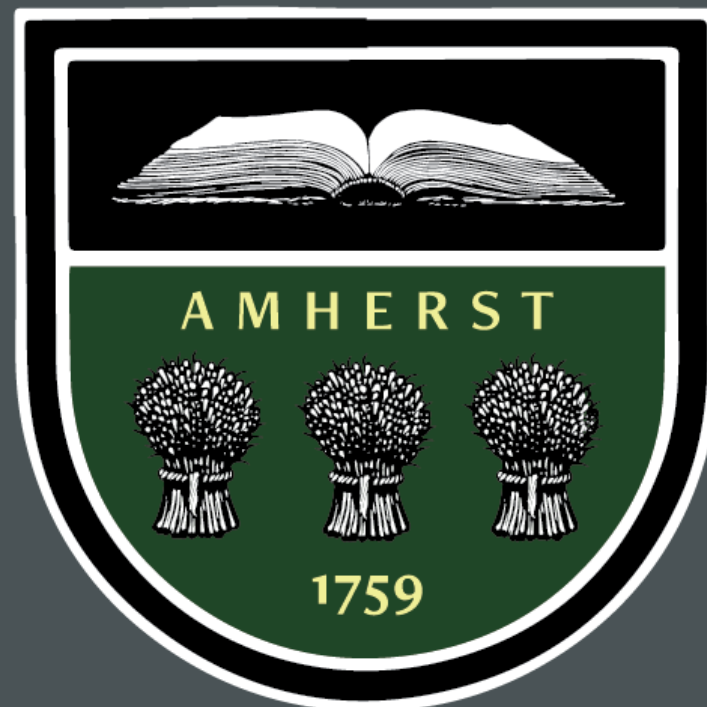
# Communications

[www.AmherstCovid19.org](http://www.AmherstCovid19.org)

## COVID-19: Agenda

- Status Report with Health Director Emma Dragon
- Town Operations Update
- **Recent Updates**

RECENT  
UPDATES:  
PUBLIC HEALTH  
CONCERNS



- **PANDEMIC FATIGUE**
  - Relaxation of vigilance
  - More time inside
- **HOLIDAY GATHERINGS**
  - Family gatherings
  - Increased travel
- **INCREASED NUMBER OF CASES**
  - Trends are up nation-wide; Town is not exempt
  - Introduction of community testing
- **RETURNING STUDENTS**
  - Students and staff returning
  - Continuation of robust testing regimen